

Southerners Sure Of Win On Filibuster

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The leader of the senate's Southern bloc said late yesterday after a strategy meeting that the Dixie lawmakers can muster the votes to kill proposed anti-filibuster rule changes.

Senator Richard B. Russell, (D-Ga.), leading spokesman for the Southerners, made the prediction as a stubborn struggle over the rules issue began in earnest between liberal and conservative senators.

RUSSELL told newsmen that even if the South's senators fail to rally enough votes to protect the status quo "we will have prolonged debate" that could tie up the senate for days.

The hard-core Dixie group picked up another member for a total of 19 when Sen. William L. Blakley, D-Tex., joined in their late-afternoon strategy huddle.

Blakley was sworn in Tuesday to succeed Vice President-elect Lyndon B. Johnson in the senate. In recent years Texas senators have not been meeting with the Southern group.

FULL-SCALE debate started shortly after the senate met for the second day of its new session. The outcome could decide the fate of some of President-elect John F. Kennedy's more controversial legislative demands.

A liberal bloc, made up of both Democrats and Republicans, set the stage for the senate battle by proposing to modify the present senate rule which now requires two-thirds approval of all members voting before debate can be limited.

While the senate contest was being waged in the open, house Democratic leaders worked backstage on another liberal-backed plan to break the power of a Republican-Southern Democratic coalition on the rules committee.

SPEAKER Sam Rayburn and his lieutenants were hopeful of achieving a compromise which would enable them to gain control of the rules committee without purging Rep. William Colmer, (D-Miss.), a veteran Southern member of the group.

Removal of Colmer, who openly opposed the Kennedy ticket in the November election, would shift the balance of power on the committee to Rayburn but might stir up Southern animosities that could plague the Kennedy administration throughout the session.

THERE WERE these other congressional developments:

—Senate Democrats averted a threatened party dispute with a compromise over the right of the new Democratic leader, Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.), to appoint members of the influential policy committee. Under the compromise, Mansfield retained the right to make his own selections but subject to confirmation by his Democratic colleagues.

—Republican congressional leaders after meeting with President Eisenhower pledged themselves to conduct "reasonable and constructive" opposition during Kennedy's administration. They said after the White House meeting they would co-operate in passing legislation in the national interest but would fight "reckless and irresponsible spending."

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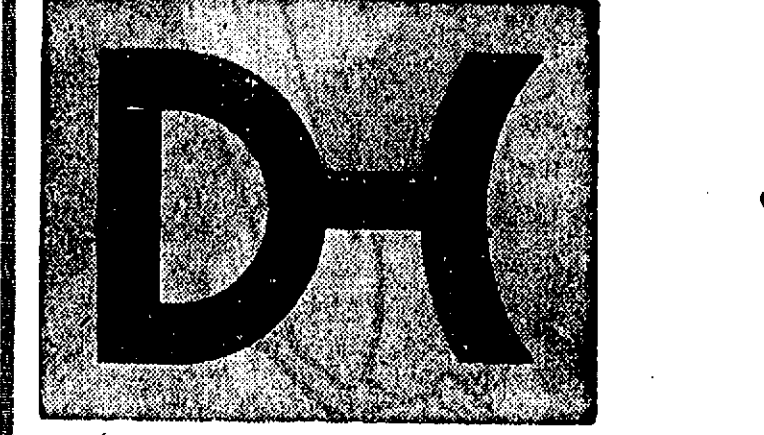


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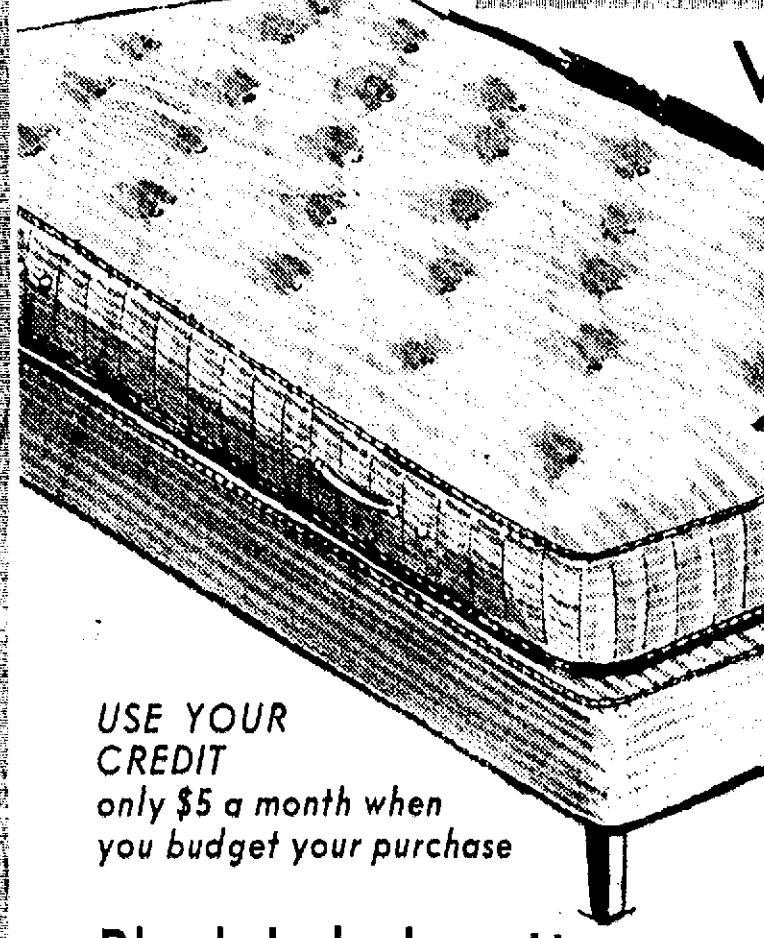
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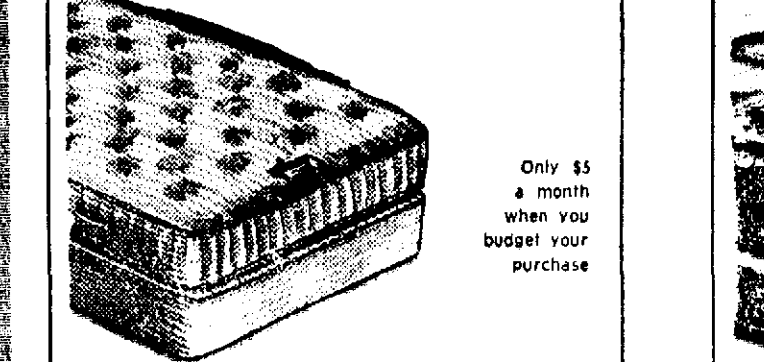
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Witness' Tears Disrupt Paddock Trial

By RALPH MAHONEY

A sobbing tavern operator at the federal court trial of accused bank robber Patrick Benjamin Paddock pleaded with the court yesterday to be taken off the witness stand.

Mrs. Helen Kuzmanoff, operator of Club Pardee, 1801 W. Van Buren, was asked by Paddock's counsel, Murray Miller, if she "had a son in federal prison."

Starting to cry, Mrs. Kuzmanoff turned to Asst. U.S. Atty. William E. Eubank and said: "Take me out of here, please."

The woman's tears and her entreaty disrupted the trial, and Judge Peirson M. Hall of Los Angeles, who is hearing the case, interrupted to say: "There is something about degrading a witness on the stand."

Calling for a copy of the Fifth Amendment, Judge Hall read it hurriedly and then advised the court that it (the Fifth Amendment) was not applicable. He advised the witness to answer.

"Yes, I have a son (in a federal prison)," said Mrs. Kuzmanoff.

"Are you afraid of what the FBI might do?" Miller asked her.

"No," she answered.

"Are you afraid of anyone?" Judge Hall asked her.

"No," said the witness.

Mrs. Kuzmanoff had been called in rebuttal testimony in an attempt to show she and Paddock had been negotiating to purchase a No. 6 liquor license at the time he was accused of robbing the Valley National Bank's branch at 1845 E. McDowell of \$4,620 July 26, 1960.

Earlier testimony indicated Paddock had \$2,975, drawn from his Tucson bank and savings accounts in his bar at his arrest July 28 in Las Vegas, to apply on a liquor license purchase. The government said it was money taken from the bank.

Paddock, recalled to the stand by his attorney, testified he had met Mrs. Kuzmanoff in Tucson about two years ago and that they had discussed a No. 6 liquor license.

In his opening argument, Eubank stressed the identification of pictures of Paddock by two Valley Bank employees; the defendant's ruse to escape jail in Las Vegas; the transfer of other license plates to Paddock's two-way radio equipped car, and Paddock's attempt to run down in his car one of six FBI agents who surrounded him the day he was captured in the Nevada city.

"Is not this the action of a guilty person?" asked Eubank.

Miller told jurors the "eyewit-

ness accounts are unreliable; that Paddock, as he had been accused, would not have walked casually out of the bank the day it was robbed."

"He would fly!" he said. Paddock's counsel said the money found in the defendant's

car had never been identified, nor linked with that stolen from the bank.

Miller said that as "an ex-convict, Paddock didn't have a chance. He took off (after he had heard of the robbery)."



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